GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:533
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2016
Fighter Aircraft of IAF
Chandumajra Shri Prem Singh;Gaikwad Dr. Sunil Baliram;Jaunpuria Shri Sukhbir Singh;Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh;Kalvakuntla Smt. Kavitha;Mahadik Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao;Mahato Shri Bidyut Baran;Patel Shri Devji Mansingram;Patil Shri Vijaysinh Mohite;Sampath Shri Anirudhan;Satav Shri Rajeev Shankarrao;Singh Shri Lallu;Solanki Dr. Kirit Premjibhai;Sule Smt. Supriya Sadanand

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Air Force (IAF); has adequate strength of fighter jets, aircraft and air warning surveillance systems, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the steps taken / being taken to meet the shortage of aircraft in IAF for its urgent operational requirements;

(c) whether the Government has signed an agreement with France for purchase of Rafale jets;

(d) if so, the total number of aircraft to be purchased, its estimated cost and the time by which these fighter aircraft are likely to be delivered and inducted into the IAF; and

(e) whether the French company has been urged to set up a production unit for manufacturing parts of these aircraft in the country, if so, the details thereof along with the details of agreement signed for technology transfer of the said aircraft?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
????? ????? ?????? (??. ????? ?????)

(a) & (b): The Indian Air Force (IAF) is equipped to cater for the threat environment that exists and is ready to meet the role assigned to it. Operational preparedness of IAF is reviewed from time to time based on the threat perception. Further augmentation of capabilities of IAF including its modernisation and acquisition is a dynamic and continuous process.

(c) & (d): Inter-Governmental Agreement with the Government of French Republic has been signed on 23.09.2016 for purchase of 36 Rafale aircraft along with requisite equipments, services and weapons. Cost of each Rafale aircraft is approximately Rs.670 crore and all the aircraft will be delivered by April 2022.

(e) No, Madam.

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